

The Downfall of Licinius

129

ilieia. Ionia, and Hilhynia. The galleys were prot> >ly in <n>od fi^htm;;' trim, hut the service wa.s not a illinjj <me, and the iU-et was as badly handled as was badly .statitmed, Amandus, the admiral of idnius, h.ul kept his .ships cooped up in the irruw Hellespont, thus acting weakly on the defen-ve instead of boldly seeking out the enemy. Con-antine entrusted the chief command of his various |u,ulrons to his son Crispus, whose only experience f naval mattrrs hatl probably been obtained from je mawt'uvres of the war galleys on the Rhine. But Roman jjrneral was supposed to be able to take smmand on either element as circumstances rc-uired. In the present case Crispus more than justS-:*tl his father's duieio. lit: wan ordered to attack id destroy Amandu-,, and the perempton'ness of le order was doubtless tluе to the difficulty of oh-lining ?aspph'»"« for NO lar|*e an army by land trans-t>rt only. Two actions were fought on two successive ;tys. In the lu'^.t Anuuuius luul both wind and cur-•nt in his favour ami made u drawn battle of it, lit-next day the wind had vet-ted round to the nith, and Crispus doMntf with the enemy, destroyed fu of tlu-ir vessels and 5cxx> <»f their crews. The iir;saj*ir of tl»e Ifrltehponr was forced; Amandus ith t!u» rctn.tiiulcr uf his fleet Sled back to the shcl-•f of Hy/antium, and the .straits were open for the riH*»a| *r of Constantino'.* transports, The I%mp«'r««r jnihhed the nit'jjc with energy, and lic*d tht? walls so vigorously with his engines that .idmiirt, aware that the capitulation of Uy/sinlium :nikl not long be pOMtpcmcd, crossed over into Asia